made in the Ayurveda budget for strengthening the compounding staff in the hospital.

Public Health.—Government have recently notified both primary and re-vaccination compulsory in all the *karas* of the State except in the Devicolam District. A thorough and intensive vaccination campaign was accordingly started in Kumbham last, both in rural and urban areas. The scheme of the campaign in rural areas is to conduct intensive vaccination in all the 9 Sanitary Circles of the State, taking one by one, the pakuthies of the taluks falling within the nine circles. The Medical Officer of Health attached to the Public Health department is in charge of the campaign. For the conduct of the campaign the existing permanent staff of Circle Officers and Vaccinators has been strengthened by the appointment of a temporary staff of nine Sanitary Inspectors. In urban areas, the Health Officers, Sanitary Inspectors and Vaccinators attached to each Municipality form the campaign staff. To enlist the co-operation of the people and to educate them, a regular propaganda work is also being conducted through the medium of cinema, chart and lantern lectures, wall-posters, leaflets and other agencies. Out of the 402 pakuthies comprised in the nine Sanitary Circles of the State, the compaign work has already been completed in 59 pakuthies and it is in rapid progress in 54 pakuthies. The total number of vaccination cases performed in the rural areas alone since the inauguration of the compaign in Kumbham last up to the end of Edavam last is about 7 lakhs. The campaign is to be continued next year, for which provision has been made in the budget.

The Public Health Laboratory, co-ordinating the Bacteriological Laboratory, the Vaccine Depot and the Chemical Examiner's Office was organised in Kanni last. Though the Laboratory started work only very recently, it has already begun to justify its existence by the useful work turned out in the short period of less than a year. The various diagnostic tests and vaccine productions show a three to five fold increase. The amount of typhoid vaccine produced during the current year is about five times that in previous years and it has been possible to make a reduction of 75 per cent in the price of the vaccine, besides supplying it free of cost to the poor, in order to encourage its popular use. In fact, it was the vaccine produced at the Public Health Laboratory that was successfully used for combating the typhoid epidemic that broke out in Trivandrum a few months back. The Public Analyst has returned after training in Bangalore and he will be engaged in the analysis of all common articles of food found in this country. If it should be possible for the Laboratory to show the best results, it is necessary that there should be an up-to-date building for housing the different branches of the Laboratory. Provision has therefore been made in the P. W. D. budget for the construction of a suitable building for the purpose.

Provision has also been made in the Public Health budget for the appointment of an Assistant Surgeon for the Bacteriological branch of the Public Health Laboratory for testing the purity of vaccines and for

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

[Mr. R. Nilacanta Pillai.]

the study of enteric group of diseases. With the merging of the Vaccine Depot in the Public Health Laboratory, it is proposed to abolish the posts of the Superintendent and the Assistant Superintendent of that institution creating against them the post of a Sub-Assistant Surgeon for supervising the production and distribution of vaccine.

The Hookworm Treatment compaign and the Vital Statistics sections are proposed to be abolished from the beginning of the next year. Provision has been included in the budget for grants to Municipalities for mosquito control and also for the control of filariasis in the Sherthalai taluk.

23. *Stationery and Printing.*—The Government Press, the Stationery and the Central Printing Office are at present under the administrative control of separate officers, each independent of the other. As these are allied institutions, Government consider that it would be conducive to their better management if they are placed under a single officer, as in Mysore and other places, so as to co-ordinate their functions. It is therefore proposed to amalgamate the three institutions and place the combined department under the control of a single officer designated "Controller of Stationery and Printing." With the appointment of the Controller, the Special Officer for the Standardization of printed forms will cease to function, any work that may remain to be done by that officer being thereafter attended to by the Controller. Provision has been made for the stock-taking of the publications in the Government Press, as also of the type plant in the Government Press and the Central Prison Press. Provision has also been included for the printing and sale of Malayalam readers and copy books.

24. *Co-operative Department.*—The accounts of more than half the number of Co-operative Societies in the State were, till last year, being audited by the Supervising Unions. The Unions, having however, expressed their reluctance to attend to the work of audit on the ground that it does not pertain to their normal functions, Government have taken on themselves the responsibility of audit of all the Societies registered under the Regulation. There are at present about 2,000 Societies to be audited. As it would not be possible for the existing staff of the department to satisfactorily audit the accounts of such a large number of Societies within a reasonable time, a special, temporary staff of 8 Inspectors has been appointed for the purpose. Provision has also been made for the continuance of the five Group Secretaries for Co-operative Societies of Depressed classes, as well as for the payment of the usual grants to Co-operative Conferences and Supervising Unions. Funds to the extent of Rs 10,000 are proposed to be placed at the disposal of the Protector of Depressed classes for carrying out measures for the general amelioration of the Depressed classes in the State. His programme will, in general, include construction of houses,

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly

sinking of wells and organisation of new Co-operative Societies. The Devadhar Committee have just finished their work and the final report is awaited.

25. *Public Works.*—The allotment for ordinary Public Works expenditure for the next year including Establishment charges and Tools and Plant is Rs 32·48 lakhs, as against the current year's budget grant of Rs 30·56 lakhs. When the estimated expenditure on Capital works and the expenditure met out of the Irrigation and Road Development Funds and the Reproductive Works executed by the Electrical department are also taken into account, the budget grant for the next year for works of public utility would amount to Rs 62·86 lakhs, and is the highest on record. Full details of the Works in progress and New works are given in the Appendices to the budget estimates.

The separate Irrigation Division sanctioned during the current year has been formed and an Irrigation Fund created with an initial deposit of Bh. Rs 5 lakhs. It is proposed to draw a sum of Rs ·68 of a lakh from the Fund for supplementing the budget grant of Rs 2 lakhs from the General revenues for Protective Irrigation works next year, the unspent balance, if any, at the close of the year being added on to the Fund to be drawn upon in future years. With the creation of a separate Irrigation Division, it is hoped that it would be possible for the department to bestow greater attention to the improvement of the several Protective Irrigation works lying scattered throughout the State. Provision has also been made for the continuance of the temporary staff for completing the investigation of a Drainage Scheme for the Trivandrum town and for the Town Planning Scheme.

26. *Superannuation Allowances and Pensions.* The expected increase is mainly under Superannuation and retired allowances due to the anticipated increase in the number of retirements.

27. *The Public Service Recruitment Committee,* appointed to enquire into and report on the question of placing the system of recruitment to Public Service on a definite basis, have submitted their report and it is engaging the attention of Government.

28. *The Retrenchment Committee,* in their report, made proposals for the standardization of salaries of officers of the State involving an average saving in expenditure to the extent of Rs 4·15 lakhs per annum. The Special Officer deputed during the current year for the standardization of salaries has submitted proposals which would result in an average saving of about Rs 4·35 lakhs. The proposals are under consideration.

29. *Travancore State Land Mortgage Bank.*— It is expected that loans to the extent of Rs 5·80 lakhs would be sanctioned by the Bank by the close of the current year. For the next year, a sum of Rs 3 lakhs has been provided in the budget under "Debt Heads." The amounts collected from the Bank's debtors are also being utilised for the grant of further loans. The rate of interest charged on the prior

LIBRARY ARCHIVES Kerala Legislative Assembly